+ Several Azerbaijanis killed and injured when Armenian armed forces illegally crossed Azerbaijani frontier in Tovuz and Gazah regions, according to Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to United Nations.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali told the informal preparatory meeting on national reconciliation in Somalia, opening today in Addis Ababa, that the Somali faction leaders bore "a great responsibility" and must take part in the "rebirth" of their country.

With food, medicine and humanitarian aid now reaching the afflicted people of Somalia, today's preparatory meeting provided a precious opportunity to exchange ideas and promote mutual understanding in a positive spirit, he said. While that process would be long and difficult, Mr. Boutros-Ghali added, time had come to move beyond starvation, pain and fear and to put aside deadly rivalries. It was time "to recreate the Somali State so that it may fulfil its role in the community of States", the Secretary-General concluded.

The preparatory meeting is expected to agree on a date, a venue and an agenda for a National Reconciliation Conference on Somalia.

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Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, in a statement issued at Headquarters today, has deplored the outbreak of fighting in Lubango, Angola. He has called on the Angolan Government and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) to ensure that there were no further violations of the cease-fire and that the dialogue begun in Namibe was "immediately restored".

As soon as the fighting began, the statement said, the United Nations Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM II) attempted to bring about a cessation of hostilities, but its efforts were frustrated when Government police threatened to fire at a UNAVEM II patrol unless it returned to its camp. The camp was subsequently surrounded and searched by Government police which killed, on the spot, one of the three UNITA members of the Joint Commission who had sought refuge there, and took away the other two. It was not the first time that UNAVEM's premises had been violated.

According to the statement, the Secretary-General strongly deplores all such actions which violate the immunity of the United Nations, prevent UNAVEM II from fulfilling its mandate and endanger the security of its personnel. Mr. Boutros-Ghali is also deeply concerned by this further violation of the peace accord signed on 31 May 1991, and of the joint declaration signed by the Government and UNITA on 26 November 1992.

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The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has begun investigation into the killing of Sean Devereux, an officer in charge of the United Nations

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Children's Fund (UNICEF) relief operations in the southern Somali port town of Kismayo. Mr. Devereux, a 28-year-old British national, was shot dead on Saturday, 2 January, by an unknown gunman, according to a UNICEF statement.

The statement also described news reports that UNICEF had pulled out from Kismayo following the incident as misleading. The UNICEF office in Kismayo remains open and is manned by its national staff in Somalia. Three other expatriate staff members working for UNICEF in Kismayo have been temporarily withdrawn until satisfactory assurances have been given by the local leadership regarding the security of United Nations personnel, the statement adds.

James P. Grant, Executive Director of UNICEF, said Mr. Devereux was in the vanguard of the international relief effort being carried out in Somalia. "His young life, snuffed out by a gunman's bullet, was spent in the service of the children of Africa", he stated.

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President Cristiani of El Salvador is sending two emissaries to the United Nations Headquarters tomorrow to provide clarification regarding a list of specific officers in the armed forces whom the President had promised to transfer or discharge before the end of the year.

In a statement issued at Headquarters over the weekend, Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali said he had concluded, from the absence of such a list in the "orden general" sent to him by President Cristiani, that the Salvadoran Government had not complied with its commitments under the peace agreement to purify the armed forces. He said the document did "not conform with the recommendations to the Ad Hoc Commission on the Purification of the Armed Forces" for the discharge and transfer of certain officers, which President Cristiani had agreed to carry out in full.

President Cristiani reaffirmed in a letter dated 27 November that he would comply with that commitment under the peace accords before the end of the year.

The Secretary-General said in the statement that he hoped the emissaries would be able to provide necessary clarification regarding the missing lists of officers.

The 12-year armed conflict in El Salvador ended formally in mid-December 1992, marked by a ceremony in San Salvador in which the Secretary-General participated.

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Cyrus Vance, Co-Chairman of the International Conference on Former Yugoslavia, at the opening of the Conference in Geneva on Saturday, 2 January, said the drafting of a new Constitution for Bosnia and Herzegovina was vital for the future of that country. The re-establishment of peace, assured

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respect for human and minority rights and the future institutional structure of the country depended upon it, he said.

According to the text detailing the Constitutional Framework for Bosnia and Herzegovina, this country would become a decentralized State with most governmental functions carried out by its provinces. The provinces would not have any international legal personality and might not enter into agreements with foreign States or with international organizations.

The Constitutional Framework also suggests that the constitution should recognize the three major "ethnic" groups as the constituent units of the State, as well as a group of "others". The provinces and the Central Government would have democratically elected legislatures, democratically chosen chief executives and an independent judiciary. The Presidency would be composed of three representatives each of the three constituent units.

The document also recommends that Bosnia and Herzegovina be progressively demilitarized under United Nations and European Community supervision.

Lord Owen, the European Community envoy and the other Co-Chairman of the Conference, said once the new Constitution was agreed upon and a stable peace had been established, the United Nations/European Community-supervised elections would be instituted.

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The task of monitoring the sanctions imposed by the Security Council against the territory of the former Yugoslavia "has not been easy", says a new report, dated 30 December 1992, by the Committee entrusted with that mandate by the Council in mid-December 1991.

On the other hand, the report says, the effective implementation of the sanctions has had an "adverse impact" on the economies of a number of neighbouring countries, some of which have addressed the Committee on the matter. Yet, the Committee notes with concern that a number of United Nations member countries have not responded to the requests to them with regard to the sanctions that they were requested to impose. The report also cites the Committee's disappointment "by the lack of information on violations of the sanctions" by States, while "the international press has been replete with reports indicating that sanctions, including the arms embargo, are in fact being breached, sometimes in a blatant manner".

While stressing that the success of the sanctions programme as a means of settling international disputes by peacefull means "depends on the active cooperation of all States", the Committee regrets that the absence of any independent monitoring mechanism of its own sometimes inhibits its ability to obtain original information and to follow up on the requested investigations. S/25027

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The situation in Abkhazia was complex and the illegal penetration of the Georgian territory by foreign nationals fighting for the Abkhaz military units against Georgia showed no sign of halting, Eduard Shevardnadze, Chairman of Parliament and Head of State of the Republic of Georgia, has written in a letter addressed to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali.

Mr. Shevardnadze said trains loaded with arms and ammunition were passing unhindered from the Russian Federation into the conflict zone. Particularly disturbing is the participation of the Russian troops stationed in Abkhazia on the side of Abkhaz extremists.

"Extremist separatism spells danger to our country as well as to our neighbours and I believe that this phenomenon can be ruinous to the whole of mankind should it become widespread," Mr. Shevardnadze warned.

He added that planes with Russian markings had subjected civilian targets to systematic bombings. He said it was clear that everything was being directed by the reactionary forces ensconced within the political circles of the Russian Federation who, with the view to regaining lost ground, unleashed a fierce war against President Boris Yeltsin of the Russian Federation at the Congress of People's Deputies.

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Tajikistan, in a letter to Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, has stated that large numbers of troops massed in the border areas of Afghanistan have repeatedly violated the State border of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The letter, submitted by Lakim K. Kayumov, Permanent Representative of Tajikistan to the United Nations, says that bearing in mind the "long-standing good-neighbourly, friendly and fraternal relations" between Tajikistan and the Islamic State of Afghanistan, Tajikistan expresses the hope that all necessary measures will be taken to prevent further violations of the Tajik-Afghan border.

The Government of Tajikistan is convinced that Afghanistan will take the necessary steps to provide shelter for the refugees from Tajikistan who are temporarily there and to ensure their safety and speedy repatriation, the letter says.

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Several Azerbaijanis were killed and injured when Armenian armed forces illegally crossed the Azerbaijani frontier in the territories of Tovuz and Gazah regions, according to a statement issued today by the Permanent Mission of Azerbaijan to the United Nations.

The statement said that on 29 December Armenian armed formations put under severe shelling the villages and towns of these two regions. The

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ongoing open invasion of the Armenian armed forces in Azerbaijan was held in the territories of Azerbaijani region of Nagorno Karabagh and contiguous to Nagorno Karabagh Lachin, Pizuli, Agdam regions.

The Government of Azerbaijan appealed to the world community to condemn what it called "the blatant aggression" of the Republic of Armenia and to call for the withdrawal of the Armenian armed forces from the Azerbaijani territories that they occupied, the statement says.

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